

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 1339

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## AN ACT

To designate the City of Salem, Massachusetts, as the  
Birthplace of the National Guard of the United States.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. OFFICIAL DESIGNATION OF SALEM, MASSA-**  
2 **CHUSETTS, AS THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE NA-**  
3 **TIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
5 ings:

6 (1) In 1629, Captain John Endicott organized  
7 the first militia in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in  
8 Salem.

9 (2) The colonists had adopted the English mili-  
10 tia system, which required all males between the  
11 ages of 16 and 60 to possess arms and participate  
12 in the defense of the community.

13 (3) In 1636, the Massachusetts General Court  
14 ordered the organization of three militia regiments,  
15 designated as the North, South, and East regiments.

16 (4) These regiments drilled once a week and  
17 provided guard details each evening to sound the  
18 alarm in case of attack.

19 (5) The East Regiment, the predecessor of the  
20 101st Engineer Battalion, assembled as a regiment  
21 for the first time in 1637 on the Salem Common,  
22 marking the beginning of the Massachusetts Na-  
23 tional Guard and the National Guard of the United  
24 States.

1           (6) Since 1785, Salem's own Second Corps of  
2       Cadets (101st and 102nd Field Artillery) has cele-  
3       brated the anniversary of that first muster.

4           (7) As the policy contained in section 102 of  
5       title 32, United States Code, clearly expresses, the  
6       National Guard continues its historic mission of pro-  
7       viding units for the first line defense of the United  
8       States and current missions throughout the world.

9           (8) The designation of the City of Salem, Mas-  
10      sachusetts, as the Birthplace of the National Guard  
11      of the United States will contribute positively to  
12      tourism and economic development in the city, create  
13      jobs, and instill pride in both the local and State  
14      communities.

15      (b) DESIGNATION OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS, AS  
16      NATIONAL GUARD BIRTHPLACE.—In light of the findings  
17      made in subsection (a), the City of Salem, Massachusetts,  
18      is hereby designated as the Birthplace of the National  
19      Guard of the United States.

20      (c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—

21           (1) MILITARY CEREMONIAL SUPPORT.—The  
22      Chief of the National Guard Bureau, in conjunction  
23      with the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the  
24      Air Force, the Council of Governors, and the Adju-  
25      tant General of the State of Massachusetts, shall

1 provide military ceremonial support at the dedication  
2 of any monument, plaque, or other form of official  
3 recognition placed in Salem, Massachusetts, cele-  
4 brating the designation of Salem, Massachusetts, as  
5 the Birthplace of the National Guard of the United  
6 States.

7 (2) FUNDING SOURCE.—Federal funds may not  
8 be used to design, procure, prepare, install, or main-  
9 tain any monument, plaque, or other form of official  
10 recognition placed in Salem, Massachusetts, cele-  
11 brating the designation of Salem, Massachusetts, as  
12 the Birthplace of the National Guard of the United  
13 States, but the Adjutant General of the State of  
14 Massachusetts may accept and expend contributions  
15 of non-Federal funds for this purpose.

Passed the House of Representatives March 28,  
2012.

Attest:

*Clerk.*



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